

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A BILL TO PROVIDE THAT FEDERAL EMPLOYEES IN AMERICAN SAMOA SHALL BE PAID THE SAME NON-FOREIGN AREA COST-OF-LIVING ALLOWANCE AS IF STATIONED IN GUAM OR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

### HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I am pleased today to introduce legislation to provide that Federal employees stationed in American Samoa be paid the same non-foreign area cost-of-living allowance as stationed in Guam or the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

To date, American Samoa is the only non-foreign area in which Federal employees do not receive a cost-of-living allowance. Given that American Samoa faces many of the same issues driving higher prices for goods, services, and travel that face other territories in similar situations, it seems discriminatory that the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has chosen not to provide COLA to Federal employees in American Samoa. Further exacerbating this problem is the fact that "post differential" compensation is paid to Federal employees who are working here who have come in from other areas of the country. As a result, the only non-foreign area Federal employees who do not receive any additional compensation are those Federal employees from American Samoa, working in American Samoa.

This legislation would remedy that inequity by providing COLA for our Federal employees at the same rate as has been determined by OPM to apply in Guam and CNMI. I urge my colleagues to join me in resolving this issue by supporting this legislation that would provide fair compensation to American Samoa's Federal employees.

RECOGNIZING THE GIRL SCOUTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ON ITS 95TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Girl Scouts of the United States of America for helping millions of young women become role models and community leaders for the past 95 years.

It was in 1912 that Juliette Gordon Low founded the Girls Scouts of the USA. Based on her lifelong desire to serve and assist others, she brought girls of all backgrounds together and helped them develop important skills to serve their communities, help the

needy and make the world a better place to live. Going against the traditional norms of the time, she encouraged young women to not only prepare for a role as a homemaker, but also to learn skills to succeed as a professional woman.

Starting 95 years ago with a single troop of 18 girls, Juliette Gordon Low's mission has grown exponentially. More than 50 million girls have since experienced the benefits of Girl Scouting and research shows that Girl Scout alumnae now represent 70 percent of women serving in Congress, 64 percent of women listed in "Who's Who in America," and 53 percent of women business owners.

In my District, the Girl Scouts of Downingtown will celebrate this anniversary with a day of service at Chester County's Springton Manor Farm Park. The girls and their parents will spend the day volunteering their time on everything from planting trees and gardening to cleaning the trails and building a new orienteering course.

So I ask, Madam Speaker, that my colleagues join me today in congratulating the Girl Scouts of the USA as they celebrate this historic milestone and encouraging this exemplary organization to provide another 95 years of service and assistance to the young women of this country in developing important skills to better their communities and succeed in careers of their choosing.

HONORING THE AMERICAN STROKE FOUNDATION AND SHOWING SUPPORT FOR H.R. 477, THE STROKE TREATMENT AND ONGOING PREVENTION ACT

### HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 477, the Stroke Treatment and Ongoing Prevention Act and to honor the American Stroke Foundation (ASF). Founded in 1997 in the Kansas City Metropolitan Area, the ASF supports stroke survivors, their families, caregivers and friends by providing resources, services, education and information that improves their quality of life.

Every forty-five seconds, someone suffers from a stroke. Blood supply to the brain is interrupted, causing a loss of brain function and possibly brain damage. Every three minutes, someone dies from a stroke.

Stroke is the number one cause of adult disability and the third leading cause of death in the United States. About 700,000 Americans suffer a stroke each year. Four out of five people in the U.S. either have had a stroke or know someone who has. My family, like the vast majority of American families, has been touched by stroke. I am proud to come before you today not only to express my commitment to doing all that is necessary to stop strokes, but to vote for an important step to ending this tragic disease.

House Resolution 477, the Stroke Treatment and Ongoing Prevention Act, establishes a national grant program and public awareness program to help each state ensure that patients have access to quality stroke prevention, treatment and rehabilitation services. I was proud to cosponsor and vote for this legislation in previous Congresses, and I am proud to do so again this week.

I would like America to know about a hometown hero, who has devoted her time, energy and amazing spirit to helping those disabled by stroke. After her husband Stan's stroke, Shirley Rose realized, as I did when stroke struck my family, that resources for recovering stroke survivors and their caregivers were painfully inadequate. Shirley did not dwell on the need and simply retreat in dismay. No, instead, Shirley founded the American Stroke Foundation and from their two locations in Kansas and Missouri, ASF has worked to improve the lives of stroke survivors by providing extended rehabilitation efforts, creating community programs, and educating the public about strokes. Shirley turned her desire for the best care for her husband and her personal need for a support network into an organization that helps thousands of Americans each year cope and recover from this often-debilitating disease.

In 2002, thanks to efforts like those of the ASF, the United States had one of the lowest death rates for stroke. My home state of Missouri is fortunate to have one of the lowest fatality rates in the country. Regardless, I hope to see both of these numbers decrease as these essential programs are supported.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the American Stroke Foundation and vote for this life-saving legislation, and I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to this life-saving and life-improving organization.

AMBASSADOR MANSOUR VISITS SEWANEE FOR LECTURE SERIES

### HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, known for its unique and comprehensive educational experience, Sewanee: The University of the South, is holding a two part lecture series focusing on the Middle East. Ambassador Reda Mansour, Consul General of Israel to the Southeastern United States, has been invited and will lead the first lecture.

Ambassador Reda Mansour was appointed to his current post in August 2006. Previously he served as the Ambassador of Israel to Ecuador, Deputy Ambassador in the Israeli Embassy to Portugal, and Deputy Consul General of Israel to the U.S. Pacific Northwest based in San Francisco.

Prior to his diplomatic career, Ambassador Mansour served in the Israeli Defense Forces Corps of Engineers in the Northern Command

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